Himes

Brooks (IN) Huizenga (MI) Buchanan Hultgren Hunter Bucshon Hurd (TX) Burgess Hurt (VA) Issa Jenkins (KS) Calvert Carter (GA) Jenkins (WV) Carter (TX) Johnson (OH) Chabot Johnson Sam Clawson (FL) Jolly Coffman Jordan Cole Joyce Collins (GA) Katko Collins (NY) Kelly (PA) Comstock King (IA) Conaway King (NY) Cook Kinzinger (IL) Costello (PA) Kline Cramer Knight Crenshaw Labrador LaMalfa Culberson Curbelo (FL) Lamborn Davis, Rodney Lance Denham Latta Dent LoBiondo DeSantis Long Loudermilk DesJarlais Diaz-Balart Love Dold Lucas Duffv Luetkemeyer Duncan (SC) Lummis MacArthur Ellmers (NC) Emmer (MN) Marchant Farenthold Marino Fincher Massie Fitzpatrick McCarthy Fleischmann McCaul McClintock Fleming Flores McHenry Forbes McKinley Fortenberry McMorris Foxx Rodgers Franks (AZ) McSallv Meadows Frelinghuysen Garrett Meehan Gibbs Messer Gibson Mica Gohmert Miller (FL) Goodlatte Miller (MI) Moolenaar Gosar Mooney (WV) Gowdy Granger Mullin Graves (GA) Mulvaney Murphy (PA) Graves (LA) Graves (MO) Neugebauer Griffith Newhouse Grothman Nugent Guinta Nunes Guthrie Olson Palazzo Hanna Palmer Hardy Harper Paulsen Harris Pearce Hartzler Perrv Heck (NV) Pittenger Hensarling Pitts Herrera Beutler Poe (TX) Poliquin Hice, Jody B. Hill Pompeo Holding Posey

Reed Reichert Renacci Ribble Rice (SC) Rigell Roby Roe (TN) Rogers (AL) Rogers (KY) Rohrabacher Rokita Rooney (FL) Ros-Lehtinen Roskam Ross. Rothfus Rouzer Royce Rvan (WI) Salmon Sanford Scalise Schweikert Scott, Austin Sensenbrenner Sessions Shimkus Shuster Simpson Sinema Smith (MO) Smith (NE) Smith (NJ) Smith (TX) Stefanik Stewart Stivers Stutzman Thompson (PA) Thornberry Tiberi Tipton Trott Turner Upton Valadao Wagner Walberg Walden Walker Walorski Walters, Mimi Weber (TX) Webster (FL) Wenstrup Westerman Westmoreland Whitfield Williams Wilson (SC) Wittman Womack Woodall Yoder Yoho Young (AK) Young (IA) Young (IN) Zeldin

NAYS-174

Zinke

Price, Tom

Ratcliffe

Hudson

Huelskamp

Chu, Judy Duckworth Adams Cicilline Aguilar Edwards Ashford Clark (MA) Ellison Clarke (NY) Engel Bass Beatty Clyburn Eshoo Becerra. Cohen Esty Connolly Farr Beyer Bishop (GA) Fattah Cooper Blumenauer Costa Foster Frankel (FL) Bonamici Crowley Fudge Gabbard Boyle, Brendan Cuellar Cummings Brady (PA) Davis (CA) Gallego Brown (FL) DeFazio Garamendi Brownley (CA) DeGette Graham Bustos Delaney Grayson Butterfield DeLauro DelBene Green, Al Green, Gene Capuano Cárdenas DeSaulnier Grijalva Carney Carson (IN) Deutch Gutiérrez Dingell Hahn Cartwright Doggett Hastings Doyle, Michael Castor (FL) Heck (WA) Castro (TX) Higgins

Maloney, Sean Sanchez, Loretta Honda Matsui Sarbanes Hoyer McCollum Schakowsky Huffman McDermott Schiff McGovern Israel Schrader Jackson Lee McNernev Scott (VA) Jeffries Meeks Scott, David Johnson (GA) Meng Serrano Johnson, E. B. Moore Sewell (AL) Jones Moulton Sherman Murphy (FL) Kaptur Sires Keating Nea1 Slaughter Kelly (IL) Nolan Speier Kennedy Norcross Swalwell (CA) Kildee O'Rourke Takai Kilmer Pallone Kirkpatrick Pascrell Takano Thompson (CA) Kuster Pavne Thompson (MS) Langevin Pelosi Larsen (WA) Perlmutter Titus Larson (CT) Peters Tonko Peterson Lawrence Torres Pingree Lee Van Hollen Levin Pocan Vargas Lewis Polis Veasey Lieu, Ted Price (NC) Vela. Lipinski Quigley Velázquez Loebsack Rangel Visclosky Lofgren Rice (NY) Walz Lowey Richmond Wasserman Lujan Grisham Roybal-Allard Schultz (NM) Luján, Ben Ray Ruiz Waters, Maxine Ruppersberger Watson Coleman Rush (NM) Welch Ryan (OH) Lynch Wilson (FL) Sánchez, Linda Malonev. Yarmuth Carolyn NOT VOTING-21

Courtney Lowenthal Bera Blackburn Crawford Nadler Napolitano Davis, Danny Capps Chaffetz Donovan Duncan (TN) Noem Russell Clav Cleaver Hinojosa Smith (WA) Conyers Kind Tsongas

\Box 1252

So the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated against:

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Madam Speaker, on Thursday, May 21st, 2015, I was absent during rollcall vote No. 263. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on agreeing to the resolution H. Res. 274, Providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1335) to amend the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act to provide flexibility for fishery managers and stability for fishermen, and for other purposes.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I was not able to be present for the following rollcall votes on May 20 and May 21, 2015 and would like the record to reflect that I would have voted as follows: rollcall No. 250: "no," rollcall No. 251: rollcall No. 252: "yes," rollcall No. 253: "no," "no," rollcall No. 254: "yes," rollcall No. 255: "yes," rollcall No. 256: "yes," rollcall No. 257: "yes," rollcall No. 258: "no," rollcall No. 259: "yes," rollcall No. 260: "yes," rollcall No. 261: "yes," rollcall No. 262: "yes," rollcall No. 263: "no."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I regrettably missed votes on May 20th and May 21st, 2015. Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on rollcall No. 258, "yes" on rollcall No. 259, "no" on rollcall No. 260, "yes" on rollcall No. 261, "no" on rollcall No. 262, and "no" on rollcall No. 263.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 1622

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that Representative ADAM SCHIFF be removed as a cosponsor of H.R. 1622.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ROUZER). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

COMMUNICATION FROM CHAIR OF ON TRANSPOR-COMMITTEE TATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Chair of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: which was read and, without objection, referred to the Committee on Appropriations:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, COM-MITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE,

Washington, DC, May 21, 2015.

Hon. JOHN BOEHNER,

Speaker of the House, House of Representatives, The Capitol, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: On May 20, 2015, pursuant to sections 3307 and 3315(b) of Title 40, United States Code, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure met in open session to consider two building project survey resolutions and one resolution that amends a resolution approved by the Committee on February 12, 2015, and which was included in the General Services Administration's (GSA) Fiscal Year 2015 Capital Investment and Leasing Program.

The Committee continues to work to cut waste and the cost of federal property and leases. The two building project surveys establish clear timetables on reviews GSA is currently undertaking to address space emergencies. The amended resolution incorporates additional information provided to the Committee by GSA with respect to leased space that will ultimately be released and consolidated into government-owned

I have enclosed copies of the resolutions adopted by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure on May 20, 2015.

Sincerely.

BILL SHUSTER, Chairman.

Enclosures.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

BUILDING PROJECT SURVEY—UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE AND FEDERAL OFFICE BUILDING, FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the U.S. House of Representatives, that, pursuant to 40 U.S.C. §3315(b), the Administrator of General Services shall investigate the feasibility and need to construct or acquire a replacement facility to house the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida and other Federal agencies, located in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. The analysis shall include a full and complete evaluation including, but not limited to:(i) the identification and cost of potential sites and (ii) 30-year present value evaluations of all options, including Federal construction, exchange, purchase (including lease with an option to purchase or purchase contract), and lease. The Administrator shall submit a report to Congress within 120 days of the date of adoption of this resolution.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

BUILDING PROJECT SURVEY—U.S. DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA, PENSACOLA, FLORIDA

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the U.S. House of Representatives, that pursuant to Title 40 U.S.C. §3315(b), the Administrator of General Services shall investigate and identify a longterm space solution for the courthouse located at 1 N. Palafox Street in Pensacola, Florida to address the space emergency of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Florida. The analysis shall include a full and complete evaluation including, but not limited to: (i) the identification and cost of potential options and (ii) 30 year present value evaluations of all options, including acceptance of the offer to donate the current building, repair and acquisition. The Administrator shall submit a report to Congress within 120 days.

AMENDED COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the U.S. House of Rep-

resentatives, that pursuant to 40 U.S.C. §3307, appropriations are authorized for lease extensions of up to 168,000 rentable square feet of space for the Federal Bureau of Investigation Joint Terrorism Task Force currently located at 85 10th Avenue in New York, New York at a proposed total annual cost of \$14,616,000 for a lease term of up to 5 years, a prospectus, as amended by this resolution, for which is attached to and included in this resolution. This resolution amends amounts authorized in the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure resolution of February 12, 2015.

Approval of this prospectus constitutes authority to execute an interim lease for all tenants, if necessary, prior to the execution of the new lease.

Provided that, the Administrator of General Services and tenant agencies agree to apply an overall utilization rate of 218 square feet or less per person.

Provided that, except for interim leases as described above, the Administrator may not enter into any leases that are below prospectus level for the purposes of meeting any of the requirements, or portions thereof, included in the prospectus that would result in

an overall utilization rate of 218 square feet or higher per person.

Provided that, to the maximum extent practicable, the Administrator shall include in the lease contract(s) a purchase option that can be exercised at the conclusion of the firm term of the lease.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall require that the delineated area of the procurement is identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, except that, if the Administrator determines that the delineated area of the procurement should not be identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, the Administrator shall provide an explanatory statement to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives prior to exercising any lease authority provided in this resolution.

Provided further, that the General Services Administration shall not delegate to any other agency the authority granted by this resolution.

GSA

PBS

PROSPECTUS – LEASE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION 85 10TH AVENUE, NEW YORK, NY

Prospectus Number: PNY-02-NY15 Congressional District: 8

Executive Summary

The General Services Administration (GSA) proposes lease extensions of up to five years for 168,000 rentable square feet of space for the Federal Bureau of Investigation Joint Terrorism Task Force (FBI) currently located at 85 10th Avenue in New York, NY. FBI has occupied space in the building since 2005 under two leases that will expire January 17 and June 5, 2015. The long-term plan is to relocate FBI from 85 Tenth Avenue to government-owned space; a lease extension is needed as space is vacated and readied at the Government-owned location. GSA will attempt to secure flexibility and the right to terminate the entire lease periodically within the five year term.

Extension of the current leases will enable FBI to provide continued housing for its personnel and meet its current mission requirements. FBI will maintain its current office utilization rate of 148 USF per person and its overall utilization rate of 218 USF per person.

Description

Occupants: Federal Bureau of Investigation

Lease Type: Lease Extension

Current Rentable Square Feet (RSF): 168,000
Proposed Maximum RSF: 168,000
Expansion/Reduction RSF: 0

Current Usable Square Feet/Person: 218
Proposed Usable Square Feet/Person: 218
Proposed Maximum Lease Term: 5

Expiration Date of Current Leases: 1/17/2015 and 6/5/2015

Proposed Delineated Area: 85 Tenth Avenue New York, NY

Number of Official Parking Spaces: 0

Scoring: Operating Lease Maximum Proposed Rental Rate¹: \$68.00 per RSF

Proposed Total Annual Cost²: \$11,424,000

Current Total Annual Cost: \$7,589,152 (leases effective 1/18/2005 and

6/06/2005)

This estimate is for fiscal year 2015 and may be escalated by 1.9 percent annually to the effective date of the lease to account for inflation. The proposed rental rate is fully serviced including all operating expenses whether paid by the lessor or directly by the Government. GSA will conduct the procurement using prevailing market rental rates as a benchmark for negotiating this lease extension to ensure that lease award is made in the best interest of the government. Lease award shall not exceed the maximum rental rate as specified in this prospectus.

Any new lease may contain an annual escalation clause to provide for increases or decreases in real estate taxes and operating costs.

PBS

GSA

PROSPECTUS -- LÉASE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION 85 10TH AVENUE, NEW YORK, NY

Prospectus Number: PNY-02-NY15 Congressional District: 8

Justification

The leases at 85 10th Avenue will expire January 17 and June 5, 2015. FBI requires continued housing at this location to carry out its mission until it can relocate its personnel and operations to government-owned space. A five-year lease extension is needed to protect occupancy until such time as space is vacated and readied for FBI at a government-owned facility.

Resolutions of Approval

Resolutions adopted by the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works approving this prospectus will constitute approval to make appropriations to lease space in a facility that will yield the required rentable area.

Interim Leasing

GSA will execute such interim leasing actions as are necessary to ensure continued housing of the tenant agency prior to the effective date of the extension. It is in the best interest of the Government to avert the financial risk of holdover tenancy.

Certification of Need

The proposed project is the be	st solution to meet a validated Government need.
Submitted at Washington, DC	on September 29, 2014
Recommended:	MAZ
	ommissioner, Public Buildings Service
Approved:	2) Who
	nistrator, General Services Administration

April 2014

Housing Plan Federal Bureau of Investigation

PNY-02-NY15 New York, NY

			CURI	RENT					PROP	OSED		
Locations	Perso	nnel		Usable Square	Feet (USF)		Person	mel		Usable Square	Feet (USF)	
	Office	Total	Office	Storage	Special	Total	Office	Total	Office	Storage	Special	Total
85 10th Avenue, New York, NY	542	542	102,782	6,000	9,391	118,173		***************************************				
Proposed Lease							542	542	102,782	6,000	9,391	118,173
Total	542	542	102,782	6,000	9,391	118,173	542	542	102,782	6,000	9,391	118,173

Office Utilization Rate	e (UR) ²	
	Current	Proposed
Rate	148	148

UR=average amount of office space per person

Current UR excludes 22,612 usf of office support space

Proposed UR excludes 22,612 usf of office support space

Overall UR ³		1.
	Current	Proposed
Rate	218	218

R/U Factor ⁴	Total USF	RSF/USF	Max RSF
Current	118,173	1.42	168,000
Proposed	118,173	1.42	168,000

NOTES:

Special Space	USF
ADP	1,977
Break Room	731
Conference/Training	2,367
Health	488
Mug and Fingerprint	244
Physical Fitness	2,560 366
Mail Room	366
Interview rooms	512
Restroom	146
Total	9,391

USF means the portion of the building available for use by a tenant's personnel and furnishings and space available jointly to the occupants of the building.

²Calculation excludes Judiciary, Congress and agencies with less than 10 people

³USF/Person = housing plan total USF divided by total personnel.

⁴R/U Factor = Max RSF divided by total USF



Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure U.S. House of Representatives

Bill Shuster Chairman

Christopher P. Bertram, Staff Director

Washington, DC 20515

Peter A. De Vazio Ranking Member

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

Katherine W. Dedrick, Democratic Staff Director

LEASE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION 85 10TH AVENUE, NEW YORK, NY PNY-02-NY15

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Approval of this prospectus constitutes authority to execute an interim lease for all tenants, if necessary, prior to the execution of the new lease.

Provided that, the Administrator of General Services and tenant agencies agree to apply an overall utilization rate of 218 square feet or less per person.

Provided that, except for interim leases as described above, the Administrator may not enter into any leases that are below prospectus level for the purposes of meeting any of the requirements, or portions thereof, included in the prospectus that would result in an overall utilization rate of 218 square feet or higher per person.

Provided that, to the maximum extent practicable, the Administrator shall include in the lease contract(s) a purchase option that can be exercised at the conclusion of the firm term of the lease.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall require that the delineated area of the procurement is identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, except that, if the Administrator determines that the delineated area of the procurement should not be identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, the Administrator shall provide an explanatory statement to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives prior to exercising any lease authority provided in this resolution.

Provided further, that the General Services Administration shall not delegate to any other agency the authority granted by this resolution.

Adopted: February 12, 2015

Bill Shuster, M.C. Chairman

GSA

PBS

PROSPECTUS – LEASE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION 85 10TH AVENUE, NEW YORK, NY

Prospectus Number: PNY-02-NY15 Congressional District: 8

Executive Summary

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Proposed Maximum Lease Term: 5

Expiration Date of Current Leases: 1/17/2015 and 6/5/2015

Proposed Delineated Area: 85 Tenth Avenue New York, NY

Number of Official Parking Spaces:

Scoring: Operating Lease Maximum Proposed Rental Rate¹: \$ 68.00 per RSF

Maximum Proposed Rental Rate': \$ 68.00 per RSF Proposed Total Annual Cost²: \$ 11,424,000

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GSA PBS

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Resolutions of Approval

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Interim Leasing

GSA will execute such interim leasing actions as are necessary to ensure continued housing of the tenant agency prior to the effective date of the extension. It is in the best interest of the Government to avert the financial risk of holdover tenancy.

Certification of Need

The proposed project is the	he best solution to meet a validated Government need.	
Submitted at Washington	, DC, onSeptember 29, 2014	
Recommended:	MAZ	
A 2 V 4 V 8 8 5 A 8 4 5 5 6 W W F 5	Commissioner, Public Buildings Service	
Approved:	S) MIS	
	Administrator, General Services Administration	

April 2014

Housing Plan Federal Bureau of Investigation

PNY-02-NY15 New York, NY

•			CUR	RENT					PROP	OSED		
Locations	Person	Personnel Usable Square Feet (USF)			Person	unel	Usable Square Feet (USF)					
	Office	Total	Office	Storage	Special	Total	Office	Total	Office	Storage	Special	Total
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Proposed	118,173	1.42	168,000

NOTES:

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Break Room	731
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Physical Fitness	2,560
Mail Room	366
Interview rooms	512
Restroom	146
Total	9,391

USF means the portion of the building available for use by a tenant's personnel and furnishings and space available jointly to the occupants of the building.

²Calculation excludes Judiciary, Congress and agencies with less than 10 people

³USF/Person = housing plan total USF divided by total personnel.

⁴R/U Factor = Max RSF divided by total USF

There was no objection.

HONORING BRAVE SOUTHERN ARIZONANS WHO MADE THE ULTI-MATE SACRIFICE IN SERVICE TO OUR COUNTRY

(Ms. McSALLY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. McSALLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the men and women from southern Arizona who have given their lives in service to our country.

Countless southern Arizonans have bravely raised their right hands and volunteered to make the defense of our Nation their responsibility. Some have made the ultimate sacrifice.

Their stories of bravery and selflessness are remembered every day by those who knew and loved them—stories like that of U.S. Army Command Master Sergeant Martin R. Barreras, who graduated from Sunnyside High School and was killed in Afghanistan in 2014; or of U.S. Army Specialist Christian M. Adams, a native of Sierra Vista, who was killed in Afghanistan in 2010; or of U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Benjamin D. White, who was based at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base and was killed when his helicopter was shot down in Afghanistan in 2010.

These are just some of the many stories of brave southern Arizonans who fought and died to preserve our way of life. Their sacrifices remind us this weekend and every day that freedom is never free.

Have a meaningful Memorial Day.

$\begin{array}{c} \text{BRAIN TUMOR AWARENESS} \\ \text{MONTH} \end{array}$

(Mr. KENNEDY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Brain Tumor Awareness Month.

Every single year, nearly 70,000 people in our country will be diagnosed with a brain tumor. Tragically, over 4,000 of them will be children. By the end of this year, roughly 14,000 Americans will lose their lives due to a brain tumor.

Like many others across this country, my family has also been touched by this painful disease, but for patients and their loved ones, hope persists, whether through increased funding for NIH research, which just passed the Energy and Commerce Committee this morning, or through the tireless efforts of nonprofit organizations like the National Brain Tumor Society.

We should not and cannot accept the notion that a brain tumor is untreatable any longer. This month and every month, we must support the efforts of our scientists, doctors, and advocates as they search for new treatment options to develop new cures.

HONORING OUR MEN AND WOMEN OF THE ARMED FORCES ON ME-MORIAL DAY

(Mr. BISHOP of Michigan asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BISHOP of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to reflect on what Memorial Day means to our country and to honor our men and women of the Armed Forces.

Our Nation has always stood strong on its founding principle of freedom, but it has taken wars and generations of brave, selfless individuals to preserve and defend it.

For their service, we are eternally grateful. We are especially mindful of those who have made the ultimate sacrifice for our country and of the fact that freedom is not free. Their valiant acts in the line of duty have kept our families safe, both at home and abroad, and there are no words for the gratitude we hold in our hearts today and always.

As we spend time this weekend with our loved ones on this great American holiday, please keep our active and fallen servicemen and -women in your thoughts and prayers, and we pray for those currently serving that they return home safely.

Happy Memorial Day, and God bless the United States of America.

□ 1300

CONGRATULATIONS TO FORT WORTH INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT'S HUSBAND AND WIFE TEACHER OF THE YEAR

(Mr. VEASEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mario Pureco-Razo and Maria Ceron-Ponce, the first husband and wife to have ever been named as teachers of the year at their respective schools. Mario and Maria immigrated to the United States from Mexico to become bilingual educators.

Maria, who teaches dual language for third grade at Glen Park Elementary School, and Mario, who teaches dual language pre-K at Mitchell Boulevard Elementary School, one of the many elementary schools I attended in Fort Worth ISD, have both proudly served the district for 7 years.

While each present a different style of teaching in the classroom, both exemplify the dedication and passion needed to shape the minds and lives of our youngest members of society.

Although we should recognize the hard work of all the teachers that perform on behalf of their students each and every day, today I want to recognize Maria and Mario's unique achievement.

It brings me great pride to represent the teachers of Texas' 33rd Congressional District, and I wish Mario and Maria continued success.

Congratulations on this outstanding achievement.

NATIONAL FOSTER CARE MONTH

(Mr. ROONEY of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. ROONEY of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize May as National Foster Care Month.

Before I came to Congress, I was the CEO of a home for abused, neglected, and abandoned children called HomeSafe. In addition to providing a caring home for children in need, our staff and volunteers helped connect them with foster families, whom we also helped certify.

I saw firsthand the struggles that children face when they don't have a safe and permanent home. I saw what a remarkable difference it could make when they found a stable and loving family, and I saw the incredible joy that these children brought to the lives of their foster families, our staff and volunteers, and everyone who worked to support them.

All children deserve a safe, loving, and permanent home. We must continue to work together to make that goal a reality for the 400,000 children in our foster care system.

ON-THE-JOB TRAINING TAX CREDIT OF 2015

(Mr. AGUILAR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. AGUILAR. Mr. Speaker, since taking office, my top priority has been to support policies that improve our economy and strengthen the Inland Empire's middle class.

Last month I released my jobs plan, summarizing what I have heard from small-business owners, job seekers, and community leaders throughout San Bernardino County. Among the many issues people face is the skills gap, the disconnect that exists between potential employees and the available job market demands of those who possess specific or technical skills. That was one of the biggest problems that I heard.

That is why yesterday I introduced the On-the-Job Training Tax Credit of 2015, a bill that creates a temporary tax credit for employers to use to help pay for the costs of training new hires. This will enable local owners to expand their businesses and empower employees with critical skills to help them succeed in the 21st century economy.

Through apprenticeship programs, vocational schools, community colleges, and more, job seekers who have been locked out of today's economy will be retrained and brought back into the fold in the Inland Empire's economy.

Studies tell us that approximately 3½ million manufacturing jobs will be open over the next 10 years, but we will only be able to fill 2 million of them due to the skills gap. It is time to retrain our workforce and build up the middle class. This bill will help us do just that.